

**Amendments to the Specification:**

1. Page 1, before line 5 but after the title, please insert the following:

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

The present application is a U.S. National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2004/010185, filed September 11, 2004, which claims priority of German Patent Application No. 103 54 316.3, filed November 20, 2003.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

1. Field of the Invention

2. Page 1, before line 12, please insert the following:

2. Discussion of Background Information

3. Please delete the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7.

4. Page 7, before first full paragraph, please insert the following:

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a cosmetic preparation which comprises

- (a) a protein hydrolyzate from silk, pashmina, cashmere wool, merino wool and/or mohair,
- (b) an extract from mussel threads of mussels, the byssus threads,
- (c) sericin and/or a hydrolyzate of sericin, and
- (d) optionally, one or more biogenic and/or functional amino acids.

In one aspect, the preparation may comprises component (d), which component (d) may comprise carnitine, creatine, taurine and/or glutathione, for example, at least taurine.

In another aspect, the preparation may comprise, based on the total weight of components (a) to (d), from 0.025% to 99% by weight of (a), e.g., from 0.5% to 50% by weight of (a), or from 1% to 25% by weight of (a), from 0.025% to 99% by weight of (b), e.g., from 0.5% to 50% by weight of (b), or from 1% to 25% by weight of (b), from 0.025% to 99% by weight of (c), e.g., from 0.5% to 50% by weight of (c) or from 1% to 25% by weight of (c), and from 0% to 50% by weight of (d), e.g., from 0.01% to 50% by weight of (d), or from 0.1% to 10% by weight of (d).

In yet another aspect, the preparation may further comprise from 0.001% to 30% by weight, e.g., from 0.05% to 20% by weight, or from 0.1% to 10% by weight, of one or more antioxidants, based on the total weight of the preparation.

In a still further aspect, the preparation may comprise HYDROLYZED COLLAGEN, HYDROLYZED ELASTIN, HYDROLYZED KERATIN, HYDROLYZED SERICIN, and HYDROLYZED SILK.

In another aspect, the preparation may be suitable for topical application to hair and/or skin.

The present invention also provides a cosmetic preparation which comprises HYDROLYZED COLLAGEN, HYDROLYZED ELASTIN, HYDROLYZED KERATIN, HYDROLYZED SERICIN, and HYDROLYZED SILK.

In one aspect, the preparation may comprise from 0.005% to 0.03% by weight of HYDROLYZED COLLAGEN, from 0.005% to 0.03% by weight of HYDROLYZED ELASTIN, from 0.05% to 0.5% by weight of HYDROLYZED KERATIN, from 0.01% to 0.5% by weight of HYDROLYZED SERICIN, and from 0.01% to 0.5% by weight of HYDROLYZED SILK, in each case based on the total weight of the preparation.

In another aspect, the preparation may further comprise from 0.001% to 30% by weight, e.g., from 0.05% to 20% by weight, or from 0.1% to 10% by weight, of one or more antioxidants, based on the total weight of the preparation.

In yet another aspect, the preparations of the present invention set forth above may be present in the form of a hydrous preparation, an emulsion (e.g., an O/W, W/O or W/O/W emulsion), a gel, a hydrodispersion, an aqueous surfactant solution, and/or a microemulsion.

The present invention also provides a hair care composition and/or a shampoo which comprises a preparation of the present invention as set forth above, including the various aspects thereof.

The present invention also provides a method of cleansing or caring for hair and/or the scalp. The method comprises applying to hair and/or the scalp a preparation of the present invention as set forth above, including the various aspects thereof.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION